AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 4.

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 8-10 and add new Claims 11-15 as indicated below.

1. (**Currently amended**) An actuating apparatus for a rapid coupling for transferring gaseous and/or liquid fluids, comprising a tubular housing and a slide which is mounted in a manner that enables it to be displaced relative to the housing and which is coupled with a lever mechanism wherein the lever mechanism comprises at least one pivoting lever which is laterally mounted on the housing, and wherein the lever mechanism comprises two superimposed levers, with an inner lever resting on a roller which is connected with the slide.

2. (Previously presented) An actuating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein two pivoting levers are provided on both sides on the housing in a mirror-inverted manner.

3. (**Currently amended**) An actuating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [the] a front surface of the at least one pivoting lever ~~pivoting lever(s)~~ pressurizes a slide ring of a rotary transmission leadthrough on the outlet side.

4. (Canceled).

5. (**Currently amended**) An actuating apparatus according to claim [4] 1, wherein [the] a contact surface of the at least one pivoting lever is arranged towards the roller as a wedge surface.

6. (**Currently amended**) An actuating apparatus according to claim [4] 1, wherein the at least one pivoting lever is guided in a connecting link of the housing.

7. (Previously presented) An actuating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an outlet valve and an inlet valve are provided in the housing, between which there is arranged a venting valve which can be actuated by the slide.

8. (**Currently amended**) An actuating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the at least one pivoting lever is connected with a hand lever via a lever~~, with preferably a pin being provided as a joint, on which the second lever of the lever mechanism is also mounted~~.

9. (**Currently amended**) An actuating apparatus according to claim [1] 3, wherein the front surface of the at least one pivoting lever comprises an initially flatter incline for force multiplication on the slide ring.

10. (**Currently amended**) An actuating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [the] a connection process of the rapid coupling is controlled at least partly by the lever mechanism~~, especially the lever guided in the connecting link or a switching valve cooperating with the hand lever, especially the sequential control of the valves within the housing~~.

11. (**New**) An actuating apparatus for a rapid coupling for transferring gaseous and/or liquid fluids, comprising a tubular housing and a slide which is mounted in a manner that enables it to be displaced relative to the housing and which is coupled with a lever mechanism wherein the lever mechanism comprises at least one pivoting lever which is laterally mounted on the housing, wherein an outlet valve and an inlet valve are provided in the housing, between which there is arranged a venting valve which can be actuated by the slide.

12. (**New**) An actuating apparatus for a rapid coupling for transferring gaseous and/or liquid fluids, comprising a tubular housing and a slide which is mounted in a manner that enables it to be displaced relative to the housing and which is coupled with a lever mechanism wherein the lever mechanism comprises at least one pivoting lever which is laterally mounted on the housing, wherein the pivoting lever is connected with a hand lever via a lever.

13. (**New**) An actuating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a pin is provided as a joint, on which a second lever of the lever mechanism is also mounted.

14. (**New**) An actuating apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a connection process of the rapid coupling is controlled at least partly by the lever guided in the connecting link or a switching valve cooperating with the hand lever.

15. (**New**) An actuating apparatus according to claim 12, wherein a pin is provided as a joint, on which a second lever of the lever mechanism is also mounted.